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8 February 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Chairman Holifield and Staff, House Government Operations Committee, Re CIA Training of Municipal Police

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1. On 8 February [] and I met with Chairman Chet Holifield, of the House Government Operations Committee, and Committee staff officials: Herb Roback, Douglas Dahlin, Paul Ridgely, and Miles Romney. Referring to the complaint of Representative Edward I. Koch (D., N.Y.) about Agency involvement in police training activities, Holifield said he was under pressure from the Democratic Caucus to investigate controversial activities of executive agencies, including CIA. He said there had been a couple of past instances where his Committee had found it necessary to assert jurisdiction over certain Agency activities but he was personally reluctant to do so.

2. I explained the details of our briefings of the New York City and other municipal police forces, emphasizing the conviction that this was entirely consistent with the letter and spirit of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act encouraging Federal agencies to lend assistance to local law enforcement bodies. Holifield was sympathetic but said that unfortunately the political pressures made it necessary for him to take some positive action in the matter. After reviewing various ways this might be done without unduly hampering the Agency in its relations with the local law enforcement elements, it was agreed that Mr. Roback would work with us in drafting a letter from the Chairman to the Director suggesting restrictive, but not prohibitive, guidelines regarding such activities in the future.

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JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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